

THE BENEFICE OF STURMINSTER NEWTON, HINTON ST MARY AND LYDLINCH

‘Making Christ's Love Known to All’



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Sunday 27th September 2026 – Trinity 17

St Peter's

St Thomas's

9:30am Holy Communion

11:00am Morning Prayer

Collect

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Ezekiel 18.1-4, 25-end

18The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is unfair.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: my way unfair? Is it not your ways that

are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is unfair.’ O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the

death of anyone, says the Lord God.
Turn, then, and live.

Psalm 25

- ¹ To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; O my God, in you I trust; • let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies triumph over me.
- ² Let none who look to you be put to shame, • but let the treacherous be shamed and frustrated.
- ³ Make me to know your ways, O Lord, • and teach me your paths.
- ⁴ Lead me in your truth and teach me, • for you are the God of my salvation; for you have I hoped all the day long.
- ⁵ Remember, Lord, your compassion and love, • for they are from everlasting.
- ⁶ Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions, • but think on me in your goodness, O Lord, according to your steadfast love.
- ⁷ Gracious and upright is the Lord; • therefore shall he teach sinners in the way.
- ⁸ He will guide the humble in doing right • and teach his way to the lowly.

Philippians 2.1-13

2 If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but

in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Matthew 21.23-32

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what

authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. 'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he

answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

Post Communion

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

News and Notices

All events are open to all across the Benefice.

St. Mary's Sides Team We urgently need some new members to join our Sides Team. Thank you to Isobel who has agreed to organise the rota on a temporary basis.

Sunday 4th Oct - Shared Harvest lunch in the church hall after the 11 am service. There is a list available at services to sign up if you can join us, and what savoury dish you would like to bring along. Alternatively please let Fiona know as soon as possible for catering purposes, thanks.

St Mary's Churchyard Volunteers: our last session of 2026 will be as planned on **8th Oct at 2pm. Please come along if you are able to help.**

St Thomas' has its Harvest Evensong followed by refreshments and auction of produce on Sunday 4th Oct.

Pet Blessing Service

At 9:30am on Sunday 11th October in St Peter's Kevin will lead a service to ask God's blessing for pets and companion animals. All pets are welcome.

St Thomas' Annual Harvest Supper will be on Friday 16th Oct in Lydlinch Hall from 7.00pm. To reserve your place please message Sarah Frizzle on 07741652713.

Advance notice All are warmly welcome to a Pilgrim Praise Service (with a healing theme as on the eve of St. Luke's Day) at St. Mary's on 17th October. Refreshments 6.30pm and service at 7:00pm. Any musicians including singers, are invited to join a rehearsal at St. Mary's at 5.15pm. Please let me know if you plan to come, so any music can be shared with you in advance.

Services & Events in the Benefice Tuesday, 29th September 9:30am – Tots & Toast – St Mary's Church Hall 7:00pm St Mary's PCC Wednesday, 30th September 10:00am – Holy Communion – St Mary's Friday, 2nd October 6:30pm – Choir Practice – St Mary's	Sunday 4th October – Trinity 18 Readings: St. Mary's and St. Thomas', Deuteronomy 29. 1-14, Psalm 65. 8-13, 1 Timothy 6. 6-10. Matthew 13. 24-30. St. Peter's, Isaiah 5. 1-7, Psalm 80.9-17, Philippians 3. 4b-14, Matthew 21. 33-end. St Peter's, Hinton St Mary 9:30am Holy Communion St Mary's, Sturminster Newton 11:00am Holy Communion St Thomas', Lydlinch 6:00pm Harvest Evensong												
Vicar: Rev Mary Gubbins revd.mary.gubbins@gmail.com ☎ 07440 680 387 Benefice Safeguarding Officer Mrs. Nicole Forbes-Marshall 07960 827108 nicoleforbes@btinternet.com	Administration: Please pass any notices or news for the pew sheets to office.sturbenefice@gmail.com by noon Wednesday.												
Lay Pastoral Assistants: For Communion at home or pastoral visits, please contact: Carol Moody ☎ 01258 721 729 Fiona Norman ☎ 01258 472 693	Find us by putting Put 'A Church near you' in your search engine and then enter Sturminster Newton, Lydlinch or Hinton St. Mary												
Mothers' Union Secretary: Brenda Stables (b.stables@btinternet.com)													
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